

to actinic radiation, especially UV light. Furthermore, the coating materials, especially the powder coating materials, ought to have a good crosslinking stability at melt temperature, leading to the development of effective leveling, in customary coat thicknesses and in air. Moreover, they should have a high reactivity on exposure to actinic radiation, especially UV light, in the region of the melting point, which is something which is necessary for combined curing by heat and actinic radiation, especially UV light. Not least, they ought to have a low level of photosensitivity in the unmelted state in order that they may be handled under normal ambient lighting conditions without risk of crosslinking.

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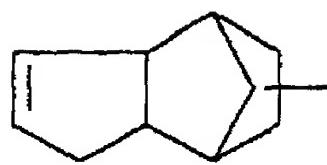
The invention accordingly provides the novel binder mixture comprising

(A) at least one polymer with a saturated main chain

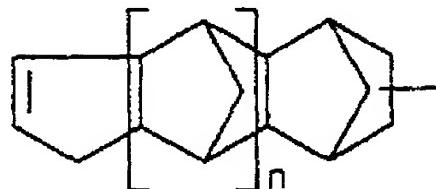
20 that is not polyester and

(B) at least one polyester having a saturated and/or unsaturated main chain,

25 (i) one of the two components (A) or (B) having structural units I and/or II, or both components (A) and (B) having structural units I and/or II,



(I)



5

(II) in which the index n is an integer from 1 to
10;

10 and

(ii) at least the polyester (B) that has no structural
units I and/or II containing maleic and/or fumaric
esters incorporated in its main chain.

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In the text below, the novel binder mixture is referred
to as the "binder mixture of the invention".

The invention further provides novel coating materials,
20 especially powder coating materials, curable thermally
and/or with actinic radiation, which comprise or
consist of the binder mixture of the invention.

In the text below, the novel coating materials are referred to as "coating materials of the invention" or "powder coating materials of the invention".

- 5 The invention provides not least a novel process for coating substrates, which uses the coating materials or powder coating materials of the invention.

The binder mixtures and coating materials of the
10 invention are curable with actinic light, preferably electron beams and UV light, but especially UV light. In addition, curing to a B-stage, i.e., to a partially cured stage at which curing is interrupted and can be recommenced later in time, is possible without
15 problems.

The binder mixtures and coating materials of the invention may be employed as solutions or dispersions in organic solvents or in water in the same way as
20 known coating materials are employed. Moreover, selected binder mixtures, directly or following addition of peroxide initiators, may also be cured by means of heat alone, by baking.

- 25 The coating materials of the invention find a specific and preferred application as powder coating materials. The powder coating materials of the invention are